

did it for revenge because his young wife was unfaithful. Escaped. Police searching. Police believe Rose has committed suicide and will drag river.

David Sweeney, 2728 Wabash av., arrested, charged with burglary by Mrs. K. De Courcey, 118 E. 43d st.

Angelina Andrici, 14, 1903 S. Clark st., who has been married two years, had husband arrested for desertion. Ordered to pay her \$5 a week.

Mrs. Anna McCabe, 87, Delavan, Wis., visiting her son at 2311 Belden ct., seized with nervous attack. Died. Paralysis.

### INVESTIGATING "BLACK ROSE" CULT LEADER

The federal government has taken up the case of "Dr." Launce W. de Laurence, head of the Black Rose and White Willow cults.

The police raided de Laurence's "temple" at 3340 Michigan avenue yesterday after the story told by Mrs. Augusta Muerie, who escaped from the "temple."

De Laurence, his wife and a gang of negroes, Indians and white women were arrested.

The chief diety of the temple was found to be a regular cigar store Indian, before which de Laurence worshipped and forced his followers to worship.

The story told by Mrs. Muerie was to the effect that de Laurence forced his white women followers to undress and "weigh in" when entering the cult before himself and a bodyguard of negroes.

Mrs. Muerie also said that flagellation was practiced in the temple.

After the police raid it was discovered that the government had been on de Laurence's trail for some time.

Evidence now in the hands of the government tends to show that de Laurence sent improper

literature and forbidden medicine through the mails.

It has also been ascertained that almost all of de Laurence's male followers were either negroes or Indians, while his female followers were white women.

There were two circles in the cult—the Black Rose and the White Willow. Only the advanced members of the cult were admitted to the Black Rose, the second "brother" of which was a negro preacher.

De Laurence is a little man, weighing about 125 pounds. He is not attractive in appearance. Apparently, however, he ruled his Michigan avenue "temple" with an iron hand. It is even said that the Black Rose members were forced to swear that they would commit murder if he ordered them to.

De Laurence swore today that no immoralities were practiced in the fashionable "temple," and denied that any of the activities of the cult were illegal.

The police case against de Laurence probably will be allowed to rest until the federal grand jury has had a chance to indict him.